Gibbous RISING

July 1978
V.1 N.6

A Feminist News Collective
Sacramento

50/60¢
SACTO & YOLO ELSEWHERE

BACKLASH!

THE BRIGGS INITIATIVE

INITIATIVE MEASURE TO BE SUBMITTED DIRECTLY TO THE VOTERS

The Attorney General of California has prepared the following title and summary of the chief purpose and points of the proposed measure:

SCHOOL EMPLOYEES — HOMOSEXUALITY — INITIATIVE STATUTE. Provides for filing charges against schoolteachers, teachers' aides, school administrators or counselors for advocating, soliciting, imposing, encouraging or promoting private or public sexual acts defined in sections 286(a) and 288a(a) of the Penal Code between persons of same sex in a manner likely to come to the attention of other employees or students; or publicly and indiscreetly engaging in said acts. Prohibits hiring and requires dismissal of such persons if school board determines them unfit for service after considering enumerated guidelines. In dismissal cases only, provides for two-stage hearings, written findings, judicial review. Financial impact: Unknown but potentially substantial local cost to school districts depending on number of cases which receive an administrative hearing

RESPONSE FROM GAY SCHOOLWORKERS

As gay schoolworkers, we are a potentially positive force in Education. The schools are one of the main places where children learn the differences between the roles of women and men in this society. Boys learn they are superior to girls. They learn to have more confidence in themselves and their bodies. They learn to be unemotional and patronizing toward women who are "the weaker sex". They are given praise for assertive, aggressive behavior. And they are trained for jobs with higher status and higher pay than "women's work". They are trained to take positions of authority over women solely because they are men.

Girls learn that their first place is in the home--as mothers and housewives. Their jobs outside the home most often fit in the same category--clerical worker, waitress, teacher's aide, teacher, hospital worker--taking care of adults and children--nurturing, subservient, relatively powerless. Women are taught to accept these low paid, low status jobs solely because we are women. Most women in this country work two jobs. Because society teaches that women's role is primarily in the home, employers can get away with paying us less outside the home. This is obviously to their advantage. Women who demand women's rights are no longer accepting this inferior status.

As schoolworkers, we are supposed to play a major role in maintaining this system and its divisions. Groups of workers who don't conform are a threat to the system and are targeted by it. Third World schoolworkers and communities face repression when they attempt to right the racism of the school system. Now we are facing repression as gay schoolworkers.

Gay school employees do not conform to fixed sex roles for men and women. This challenges the division of labor between women and men which threatens the very structure of women's oppression. As lesbians, we disprove the idea that women must be economically, emotionally and sexually dependent on men. This directly challenges the authority of men over women throughout U.S. society and is therefore dangerous to the government. The profits of the ruling class rely on the maintenance of men's authority over women. We know this threat to male supremacy is positive. As lesbian schoolworkers, we are committed to building a school system and a society that does not have these divisions based on race and sex. BUT, in order to be the best possible teachers for our students, we MUST have the freedom to be open about who we are.

It is no accident that the Briggs Initiative is happening now. The militant struggles of Third World people and women in the '60s won affirmative action, more equal education, abortion rights

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WOMEN HIT HARD

California is experiencing a political implosion as a result of Proposition 13. The famous Jarvis-Gann Bill is a reality for all Californians. As with many decisions, Proposition 13 has pitted the GOP against the Democrats in a rhetorical battle over maintaining state services. It has caused concerned people to fight with one another to maintain funds. Fire districts, school districts, alternative health care services, child care services, services for the elderly, and services for women are all in need of funding, and they all stand to lose.

Once again government has put women in the position of losing the most. Proposals are being made to cut welfare and medical monies. This means that there will be a sharp decrease in financial assistance to women who are already in dire need. In Sacramento County alone, 51% of all working women have children under six. These women could lose their jobs, lose their child care, lose their medical benefits, and lose any other service that the county has offered within the past years.

Proponents of 13 can continue to live smugly in their already secure environment. They can continue in their own ignorance to deny people the right to exist. The GOP is reportedly

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EDITORIAL: ELECTORAL POLITICS?

Again the people of America have made a public statement regarding their dislike of ethnic and poverty people. Proposition 13 has afforded conservatives to display their form of politics--reactionary efforts to tell each and every one of us how despicable our needs are. The beligerent attitude of Proposition 13 proponents is exemplified by their borrowed slogan, "we're mad as hell, and we're not going to take it anymore."(Network) Their lack of hindsight has disabled them, they never see the plight of the impoverished or oppressed people. People who for years have said, "we're angry, and we have no choice." And certainly, no choice is more than true, the implication of no rights or justice for the oppressed is more than evident in America.

For centuries in this country only the economically secure could have medical care, legal justice, and everything that goes with the good life. Now they can add to that list, child care, education for their children, care for the disabled and elderly members of their families, and any other service money can buy. If Proposition 13 works as well as the founders of the bill wish, it will only be a matter of time before service agencies go broke. This means a segment of the public sector has been denied their rights, their right to exist, their rights to maintain security for themselves and their families.

Again in November, the same people who voted for Propostion 13 will be allowed to show their political astute ness. As with Jarvis and Gann, John Briggs is doing his best to destroy an already severely oppressed class of people.

California has sucessfully diminished the liberal spirit and in the wake of propaganda, has terrified the public. Soon California ballots will read like concentration camp war journals- and perhaps, in order to remain annoymous, liberal groups will publish lists of causes not to support because of fear. Don't support homosexuals, don't support lesbians, don't support child care, women's centers, rape crisis centers, battered women's shelters and on and on into oblivion. The "don't support" will become a slogan of fear, we will be forced to go underground, we will be denied our rights of freedom of expression in order to side step jail sentences, grand jury investigations, loss of job and public denegration. Oppressed people will no longer be able to help one another. California politicians have pepetuated a witch-hunt and few concerned people will escape.

We must organize and maintain support networks- we must fight unjust political oppression- we must prove that the adoption of propaganda and fear tactics is a conservative reaction and it is the conservatives that stand to lose the most. As in the movie Network, Howard Beal (Peter Finch) was killed... the end to conservative capitalistic terrorism.

by Lynn Patten

LETTER

Editor:

I would like to share an unforgettable nightmare experience when my wife was forcibly kidnapped at gunpoint, raped, and forced to commit unnatural sex acts or be killed. To this day, the crime goes unreported, unpublished, uninvestigated, and unwanted by the Yolo County Sheriff's Department who left us disgusted, intimidated, and still living in fear. My wife was kidnapped at gunpoint and forced to drive to Yolo County where the forcible rape/sex perversion was committed. Only one male deputy sheriff responded to our call. Instead of taking my wife to the hospital, he took us back to the crime scene area and his only comments of investigation were "I don't see anything unusual here, lets go, next stop Woodland Hospital." Upon arrival at the hospital the officer's unwanted questioning concerning the unnatural sex acts continued until my wife became so emotionally upset that the examining physician verbally reprimanded the officer. We never heard anymore from the Yolo County Sheriff's Department concerning their investigation or what they were doing, we were never asked to make a composite or description of the rapist.

One month later the rapist followed my wife home laughing and smiling at her and saw where my mother's residence was. A couple of days after that my wife observed the same attacker pulling alongside her car in yet another car. The rapist laughed again and showed my wife a gun which he kind of ran up and down his own neck. When she got home I immediately called the sheriff's department to report these incidents of the same rapist following my wife and I was told on the telephone that the sheriff's department could not do anything about it because it would be illegal, I was advised to have my wife get the license herself. A day or so later I was riding in the car with my wife and the same guy drove up alongside us. My wife screamed, "There he is, that's the guy." The rapist saw me and sped off, we couldn't get the license number. I was so furious about the unresponsiveness of the last telephone call to the sheriff's department that I personally went to the main office in Woodland to arouse some interest and get some help or protection.

I was rudely told in so many words by one officer that the sheriff's department was tired of hearing about my problem and to "get the hell out of here and quit bothering us." I was informed that my wife was probably imagining she was being followed.

My wife and I attended the sheriff's candidate forum in Davis because we had previously recognized one of Rod Graham's law enforcement officer who publicly endorsed him as being the same officer who alledgedly investigated our rape case. We wanted to get Rod Graham's opinion on how he instructed or trained officers in the handling of a rape victim or search of a crime scene area. Graham had been the training officer for the sheriff's department at the time of our incident. After the forum was over approximately twenty concerned females began talking with my wife and Graham talked to her and I also with witnesses present. Rod Graham would not take any responsibility and wanted to know the officer's name. We told Graham we didn't want the officer to be ridiculed or named and Graham suggested that we sue the officer and the department so that way the officer could be fired. I'm sure that officer who endorsed Graham for sheriff would appreciate his comments. I stood talking to Rod Graham while under-lining all the accomplishments he boasted in his mailing brochure. Yet Graham was willing to throw one of his own officer endorsers to the "wolves" in order that Graham not be blamed for the training methods he employed at the direction of the incumbant sheriff. My wife and I don't blame the officer, but we blame the people responsible in his training, but nobody wishes to accept that responsibility. The only other person we talked to about this incident who shared our pain and misfortune was sheriff's candidate Bob Bonetti, who is in no way presently connected with the present administration. Bonetti assured us that if he is elected the new sheriff this type of incident will landmark a more extensive reform of the present training methods and procedures used by the sheriff's department.

Mr. & Mrs. A Giese
Yolo County Residents

Gibbous RISING

Founded 1977

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Gibbous RISING is published and distributed monthly.

Subscription rates: $5.00 per year
Ad rates: $6.50 per column inch.
Write Gibbous RISING c/o Sacramento Women's Center 1230 H St., Sacramento 95814.

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Unsolicited manuscripts welcomed. Deadlines: non-camera ready ads. 10th of every month: articles 18th of every month: camera ready ads. 21st of every month: new distributors. 25th of every month.

The opinions expressed in Gibbous RISING do not reflect the views of the Sacramento Women's Center.

Another Form of Rape

The effects of Prop 13 are far-reaching and devastating to most of us. Many of us are feeling the immediate results through the loss of our jobs--our means of survival--but the damages do not stop here.

Valuable social services that care for people's needs, challenge social ills and demand greater quality for people's lives are being eradicated. One such area is the encompassing service to sexual assault victims.

Rape Crisis Center's grew out of a dawning awareness early in this wave of the Women's Movement that women and children who were sexually assaulted had nowhere to turn for support, counseling, and assistance. The rape crisis movement unfolded and Rape Crisis Center's soon established themselves in every major city in California, as well as the rest of the nation.

The RCC in Sacramento is one such service center that had its birth early in the "rape WAR". In its 5 years, the center has counseled over 7,000 rape victims, countless more significant others, and has presented educational programs to tens of thousands of women, men and children.

Now, thanks to Mr.'s Jarvis and Gann, and those who voted yes on 13 to add an additional $20.00 a month to their spending power, the future of sexual assault victims of Sacramento face a return to the dark ages where no services are available to meet their special needs.

The RCC has existed for the past 6 months entirely on County Revenue Sharing money. It was due to be refunded in September, 1978. Within its review process, it had received nothing but exemplary comments and was to be recommended for permanent funding. With the passage of Prop 13 all of those recommendations may mean nothing. The center now faces the loss of all funds as of August 31 of this year. Unless money is transferred into the County, the RCC along with all other vital social services to women, children, people of color, workers and the poor will be wiped out.

The Jarvis-Gann proposition is not only an attack on the Sacramento RCC; it is the enemy of the entire rape movement in California. Already BAWAR, one of the oldest RCC's in the state, has lost its funding. The centers in L.A., including the LA Commission on Assault Against Women and the East LA Hotline, the only entirely bilingual crisis line in California, are facing the painful task of trying to keep open without funds. Small centers, who are attempting to establish themselves, and who have been directed into seeking local funds by all other funding sources, will now be turned away from their only potential source of funds.

If Prop 13 wreaks its anticipated havoc, almost all RCC's in California will have taken a giant step backwards to a time when all of the needs of sexual assault victims and their loved ones rested on the shoulders of a few dedicated volunteers who invested all of their energy into operating centers on love and commitment, but no money. Once again the state and local governments will be saying that violence to women and children is not their concern. Once again the task of caring for abused women and children will be thrust into the hands of a few committed women. And once again, the society responsible for such violence is abdicating its responsibility.

Such irresponsibility cannot be allowed to continue. The years of struggle to get recognition for the anti-rape movement cannot be eradicated by one socially irresponsible bill. Jarvis talks about the voice and will of the people. Women, children, third world people, the poor, the workers, the disabled are all people; obviously not Jarvis' people, but people nonetheless. The voice and will of the people who have needs created by society must prevail. All people who have ever used or could ever use community services--all of us with collective and social conscience--must protest this move to destroy us and our work. We must plan our strategies, demonstrate, send letters and telegrams to government--make ourselves heard.

It is a sorry testimony to this state that the survival needs of millions of people are a priority so low that they can be bought off for $20.00 a month.

Theresa Corrigan

HARASSMENT ON THE JOB

After a long search she's landed a job in a restaurant. The wage barely covers what she needs to get by--the hours are long and hard. The next pay level, fry cook, is traditionally closed to women, so in this deadend job she works for her tips. She is required to wear a short skirt, low-cut blouse and frilly panties- there is no explanation offered for the costume, it is assumed that she realizes that in this work she is to be as appealing as the "special of the day." In this job, as in most jobs women hold,- she must sell herself.

Another woman- better paid, better dressed- works as a secretary/receptionist in a well respected community based agency. She dispenses reassurance in the morning with coffee. She has also been the recepient of sexual attention from her boss for the two years she has held the job. At first, it was not clear to her what the relationship should mean. It is now clear. It means her job. She no longer minds, after all, she likes her job. And she's not getting any younger.

In every job a woman holds two positions- woman and worker. As a worker, she accepts low wages, no security, dead-end occupations, and is often the "temporary girl". As a "woman on the job" she is expected to play along if she can, and if

she can't (when younger women or more attractive women are available) she is entangled in the downward trend from dinner house to coffee shop, from Administrative Asst., to "the typing pool."

The Sacramento N.O.W. Employment Task Force is examining the relationship between traditional women's work and traditional attitudes toward women on the job. We are concerned that women are harassed either subtlely (dress and demeanor as job requirements) or blatantly (job security affairs) feel isolated and trapped. We realize that women are routinely subjected to sexual harassment on the job, however as rape and wife-battery became political rather than personal issues, so must harassment, if we are to take the first steps towards eradication. We are asking that if you have been a victim of sexual harassment on the job, you contact us for assistance and/or support. Learning of the extent and aspects of harassment, we are better equipped to help one another (there are actions you can take) and we may speak more knowledgebly to the intrinsic relationship between economic powerlessness and sexual powerlessness.

AB 2858 (Agnos) would make it an unlawful employment pratice to discriminate based on an employee's refusal to perform sexual favors. Obviously, it is not "recognized" that it is a crime to coerce a person into an act when the recipient is economically powerless (after all, who hires and fires) to prevent it. However, our past experience with legislation in mind, we realize that a male dominated Legislature has difficulty comprehending male privilege- and "sexual rewards" go with the territory.

Obviously, the problem is a woman's problem which will be resolved by women. As we "spoke out" about rape and wife abuse, it is time to speak out about sexual harassment . A victim waits for the crime to stop. We will no longer be victims. We will no longer wait. Contact N.O.W. Employment Task Force!

-Kit Mahoney

DROP THE CHARGES AGAINST CASANDRA PETEN

Casandra Peten worked fulltime, as did her husband, at Todd Shipyard in Alameda. She was a member of Laborers Union Local #886. She supported her son and went to school at night studying to become a court reporter. After 2½ years of mental and physical abuse by her husband--including repeated threats on her life--Casandra was forced to quit her job. She left Oakland and went to Louisiana where she got another job and set up living for herself and her son.

Casandra's husband, Cornell Peten, began calling her mother demanding that Casandra return because he needed her signature to cash their joint tax refund check. Upon the request of her mother, Casandra returned to Oakland to cash the check, divide the money in half as they had previously agreed, and avoid further conflict with her husband. Once in Oakland, she needed her share of the money to return to her job in Louisiana.

Casandra met Cornell Peten at the bank. She carried a gun because she feared for her life. After cashing the check, Cornell Peten walked away with $1400 of their $1495. Out of desperation, Casandra shot him to stop him from running away with her money. He is alive with no charges against him. But Casandra now faces charges of attempted murder as well as possession and use of a fire arm.

Many women and men from Todd Shipyard and from the Oakland community are rallying to Casandra's support. We are demanding that all charges against Casandra Peten be dropped.

We are asking for your support.

For more information contact the Casandra Peten Defense Committee, 1600 Woolsey St., Berkeley, Ca. 94703

SUPPORT YVONNE DAY

Yvonne Day has been denied a hearing on her case by the Human Rights Commission for nearly a year. (See past two issues of GR for details). We, as feminists and concerned individuals, understand that without due process and access to legal action, we have no workable recourse to discriminatory treatment.

Because she was not permitted due process, her only option is legal action. It is imperative that the case be filed immediately, but to do so requires money. Few single women have access to the kind of money necessary to obtain justice within the judicial process; Yvonne is no exception. Without financial support of consciencious people, Ms. Day will again be denied a fair hearing because of the lack of money for legal hearings.

With your donations, you can see to it that Yvonne Day has "her day in court". You can insure that the HRC be held accountable for the sexist practices it condoned thru its apathetic silence to Yvonne's requests for hearings. You can guarantee that employers learn by example that racist and sexist practices and costly.

Your failure to assist Yvonne Day will be your assistance to the HRC in denying her equitable treatment you will inadvertently become an accomplice after the fact to a crime against a strong woman who has courage and conviction.

Please send whatever contribution you can afford to the Women's Legal Defense Fund, % Sacramento Women's Center, 1230 H St. Sac. Ca. 95814

RACIST & SEXIST

Filipina Narciso and Leonora Perez may file suit against the Ann Arbor Veteran's Hospital for personal damages resulting from the long trails surrounding their case.

The nurses were convicted of poisoning patients at the hospital by circumstantial evidence. A new trial was ordered, but after demonstrations from the Philippine Government, the U.S. Government decided to drop all charges, announcing that any further evidence involved with the case would continue to be circumstantial.

Narciso and Perez have charged that the hospital failed to provide proof that the poisonings even resulted from Pavulon injections. They are also charging that the hospital's efforts to single them out as being responsible for the deaths of the patients were both racist and sexist.

KAREN SILKWOOD:
SUIT ALLEGES F.B.I. CONSPIRACY

Four years ago, November 13, 1974, Karen Silkwood, a union organizer concerned about plutonium contamination, was found dead in her car off an Oklahoma highway. Her father, sympathizers and a Catholic-oriented justice group have kept the issue alive and a suit filed against Kerr-McGee Nuclear Corporation will go to trial this year. The suit alleges that 22 Kerr McGee employees and 4 FBI operatives conspired to conceal Kerr-McGee's illegal attempts to prevent Silkwood from organizing for the union. The suit also charges Kerr-McGee with negligence in plutonium handling.

Karen Silkwood was found dead in her car after it smashed into a concrete culvert. She was on route to Oklahoma City to give a New York Times reporter documents that could incriminate Kerr-McGee's Cimarron Nuclear facilities in Cresent, Oklahoma. The documents were never recovered, and many people believe that Karen Silkwood was murdered.

There have been several attempts to have hearings for the Silkwood case, all of which have failed because of a lack of cooperation by the Justice Department. Finally, in 1976, the House Energy and Environmental Subcommittee held a cursory hearing. Questions which remained unanswered after the hearing include:

--How and why was Silkwood's apartment contaminated by plutonium?
--What happened to the missing documents?
--Did Silkwood fall asleep at the wheel of her car, or was she forced off the road?
--How much plutonium was missing from the Cimarron plant?

Karen's father had wanted to file a civil suit after the Justice Department closed the case, but could not raise the $25,000 minimum lawyers needed to prepare a case. Sarah Nelson, a National Organization for Women labor task force coordinator and fund raiser, introduced Silkwood to Daniel Sheehan, a lawyer, and Father William Davis. These people, with the backing of the Quixote Center, have raised the money necessary to bring Kerr-McGee to trial. Sheehan wishes to establish three precedents with this case:

That there was an illegal conspiracy between the FBI and big business.

That the corporation should be convicted under the 1964 Civil Rights Act for violating the rights of workers to organize.

That a nuclear corporation is responsible for the off-site contamination of private citizens.

Among the 12 specific complaints against Kerr-McGee, charges include that the corporation conspired to:
--Illegally have the home telephones of Silkwood and other organizers bugged, and collected dossiers on their private lives;
--Hire "operations agents" to physically endanger citizen's safety;
--Order employees not to talk to the media, under threat of being fired.
--Fire or transfer persons from the Cimarron facility as a punishment for pro union activity.
--Falsify official reports to investigators from agencies such as the FBI, the Atomic Energy Commission and Congress.

Information provided by the National Catholic Reporter, Quixote Center.

TV Rape and the Courts

The Supreme Court cleared the way for trial of an unprecedented $11 million damage suit against the National Broadcasting Co. for showing a movie that allegedly inspired a sexual assualt on a nine year old girl by four juveniles.

The case represents a sharp clash between critics of television violence and defenders of the First Amendment rights to free expression.

The network, joined by broadcasters, writers, librarians, and movie makers, had contended that, if the suit were allowed to come to trial, it would open the way for a wave of similar costly, time-consuming legal actions against them by victims of crime purportedly 'copied' from books, movies, television and radio.

The justices, with one dissent, let stand a ruling by the California Court of Appeal permitting the case to come to trial (NBC vs. Niemi, 77-1308).

The suit, brought on behalf of the victim against NBC and San Francisco television station KRON, had orginally been dismissed by San Francisco Superior Court Judge John A. Ertola.

At issue is the movie "Born Innocent," shown at 8pm (7:30 in some areas) in September, 1974. In its opening minutes, viewers saw a fifteen year old inmate in a home for wayward girls being sexually attacked in a shower by four other girls- one shown making intense thrusting motions with a plumbers' helper until another of the girls cried, "That's enough."

Three days later in San Francisco, three girls and a boy- ages 9-15- made a similar attack with a bottle on the nine year old girl. According to police, the juveniles said they had been inspired by the movie. They were released on probation.

The victim and her mother sued the network and the station for negligence, saying they should have known that the program- particularly if shown at an early hour- would be imitated by impressionable minors and would cause physical and mental harm.

The case was set for trial but Ertola dismissed the action after watching the movie. The judge held that the drama did not "incite" crime and that the lawsuit was barred by the First Amendment. The state appeals court reversed his decision, saying that the girl was entitled to a jury trial to try to prove her case.

The suit was supported by the California Medical Assn., which filed a friend-of-the-court brief pointing to a number of studies citing the influence of television on children. The medical association called television "a school for violence and a college for crime." Broadcasters, the association said, should not have immunity from civil liability any more than anyone else.

Reprinted from Newspage
June 1978

Housewife's Tax Contest

Edward and Dories Bernays have announced a three thousand dollar award to anyone who composes a plan to insure wages for housewives to present to congress.

The Bernays believe the equipment used in the maintainence of the house should be standard business tax deductions. Mrs. Bernays said " a women is born with a broom in her mouth, not the mythical silver spoon."

All entries are to be addressed to Frank Gencovese, Administrator, Babson-Bernays Competition, Babson Park, Mass. Entries should not exceed 5000 words and must reach the Bernays by October 16th.

ERA Update

In June the Illinois House failed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment making it doubtful that the 38 necessary states will ratify the ERA by the March, 1979 deadline. But, the move for extension got a show of support in Congress.

The House Civil and Constitutional subcommittee approved the extension of the ERA deadline by a four to three vote. The measure now goes to the full Judiciary Committee.

Briggs and Campaign Funds

California State Senator John Briggs gained national attention recently by turning in petitions calling for a state-wide initiative in November that would prohibit the hiring and require the firing of any gay teacher or public-school employee.

Briggs reported earlier this month that his campaign had raised $858,454, more than the front runner in the GOP race, Attorney General Evelle Younger. Briggs reported spending all but $19,614.

In an interview preceding his withdrawal from the gubernatorial race, Briggs said that most of the money spent during his campaign actually went into the anti-gay initiative and another initiative that supports the death penalty. Briggs said, "I would imagine maybe $100,000 might be directly attributed to the gubernatorial campaign and that's why I'm at two percent in the polls." The senator claims that everyone who was visited and asked for money knew how the money was going to be used. "They had it clearly in their mind, I know they did," claimed Briggs. He said he had legal clearance for his money transfers from the state's Fair Political Practices Commission. No formal charges have been made in connection with the transfer.

Briggs said he will focus his energy between now and November on "trying to make John Briggs a household word" with the two initiatives. "Remember, I'm going to be the fellow with the initiatives determining whether or not homosexuals are going to teach children in California. And I'm also going to be the leader of a drive for a tough new death penalty. I will be on national television. Readers Digest just finished an interview with me. Time magazine called twice in a week. I will be in everyone's living room thousands of times over," Briggs told the press.

In addition to transferring much of the money raised for his gubernatorial race to the initiative campaigns, Briggs financing came into question for several other reasons. Briggs' son, 20 year old Ron, and son-in-law Steven Bailey, were put on the campaign payroll. The two and Bailey's Starburst Consulting Inc. received more than $44,000 in consulting fees during the campaign. Briggs used his own insurance company to take out a $400 policy for the campaign headquarters. He shrugs off any suggestion of nepotism, saying, "We have always been a small family operation." Other relatives, he claimed, "worked day and night for no money" on the campaign.

The senator's campaign financing has been called into question in the area of loans to the campaign. His hometown newspaper, the Orange County Register, reported that Briggs' personal loans totalled $317,500; more than one-third of his total fund raising. Briggs says this figure is inaccurate and that the amount loaned is "somewhere between $150,000 and $170,000."

Whatever the exact figures of the loan, Briggs did not comply with a law requiring he report the original source of the money loaned to the campaign. He said the error was from a misunderstanding of the law and he promised to correct his reporting statements.

Briggs said the source of the money was from a $80,000 mortgage on his home, from proceeds from the sale of another home, and two bank loans. His son and son-in-law also loaned the campaign a total of $40,000.

Reprinted from Gay Community News

Susan Strong

B.A. Psychology
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WOMEN FARMWORKERS

In a study conducted by the California Commission on the Status of Women, evidence has shown that women agricultural field workers suffer severely from low pay, deficient housing and health care, and hazardous working conditions.

The study was done in Fresno and Imperial counties. Agricultural employees were selected randomly and asked their views on women employees. The findings of the study are: 1) women are an important component of the farm labor force and contribute to their family's income 2) women in farm work are "dead-ended" in low-paying jobs under the assumption that better paying jobs require more strength, 3) women desire to leave farm work because working conditions are bad, pay and benefits are low, and housing is substandard 4) women suffer more health risks because of mechanized processes--primarily conveyor belt hazards, unsafe field conditions, harmful chemicals, and lack of adequate sanitation facilities. It was also found that women receive insufficient health services, are in need of housing, have little opportunity for job training and need more affordable child care.

The purpose of this report is to develop useful information on what should be done to increase the employability of women in agriculture. Hopefully this study will prompt the government into allowing for a more comprehensive report. Factual data is needed on the status of agricultural women, their employment patterns and their average hourly wage, obstacles to their employment, and services available to assist in removing these obstacles.

information from Commission on the Status of Women.

CARTER'S IMMIGRATION PLAN

Violations of the Chicano and Latino community's civil, constitutional, and human rights will be the end result of President Carter's new Immigration Plan. The six-point plan is an attempt by the Carter administration to deal with the problem of illegal aliens. Carter proposes 1) adjusting the immigration status of undocumented aliens who entered the U.S. before January 1, 1977, making some eligible for permanent resident status and creating a new "Temporary Resident Alien" category for others; 2) increasing the Southern Border Patrol by 2,000 agents to prevent illegal immigration; 3) co-operating with governments that are major sources of undocumented aliens to improve their economies and their controls over alien smuggling rings; 4) increasing the annual legal immigration from bordering countries to 50,000; 5) controlling temporary foreign worker-certification program so it responds to needs of American employers; and 6) making the hiring of undocumented aliens illegal, with civil injunctions and fines for those who employ illegal aliens.

The Committee on Chicano Rights has called Carter's Plan a "hoax" and a "band-aid", and maintains the proposal will "increase the intensity of the police state in the Chicano community."

Undocumented aliens would be taking a chance on deportation if they applied for permanent residence in the U.S. And, they would be required to pay taxes to support a system they would not be allowed to participate in, if they were granted temporary resident status.

Carter's proposed plan to enlarge the border patrol will do nothing to stop illegal immigration, but it will escalate the border tensions and more raids will occur--- which means more violations of the rights of the Chicano/Latino community. Immigration is a socio-economic problem, not a law enforcement problem. Because American companies capitalize on the resources of neighboring countries, billions of dollars in profits are taken out of these countries. If American corporations would filter profits back into the country or nationalize their foriegn plants, then there would be more jobs and more money available to the people and they wouldn't have to come to the U.S. to avoid starving.

Carter's plan is written to protect business interests. The plan allows the importation of workers to meet the demands of argibusiness for cheap, easily exploitable labor. It is a renewal of the Bracero program, and the government's intent is the same now as it was in the 1940's and 50's--- to perpetuate the poverty of American migratory workers, to depress wages and to destroy the farm worker's unions and bargaining power.

At the same time Carter wants to import immigrant workers for big business, he wants to fine employers who hire aliens who are not registered with the government. Since it is impossible to tell an American Chicano/Latino from a Mexican citizen, the easiest way for American employers to avoid fines would be to refuse to hire brown or Spanish-speaking persons. The choice for American's of Chicano/Latino descent would be unemployment or government I.D. cards. Both alternatives are attacks on the constitutional rights of American citizens.

The Committee on Chicano Rights is demanding 1)Unconditional amnesty for all illegal aliens with family reunification; 2) the immediate halt of all deportations; 3) Congressional hearings to form a just immigration policy. They are asking that we write our Congresspeople to demand their support.

Robin Purdy
Information from Committee on Chicano Rights
1837 Highland Ave, National City
Ca. 92050

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CHILD CARE, WHO CARES?

Once upon a time, if only in the imagination of all true-blue, red-blooded Americans, all children were raised with mommies and daddies and sisters and brothers. They lived in little houses with green shutters and dogs and cats. They went to the country for picnics every Sunday. Ah, mythic America: the family as the mainstay of democracy; motherhood as all giving, all virtue, all love. Child care centers and babysitters were for those people no one talked about (you know the "unwed mothers,"the divorcees"). Juvenile delinquency and disrespect for authority were direct results of absentee mommies, selfish women who thought working was more important than raising children: the most important and fulfilling work a woman could do.

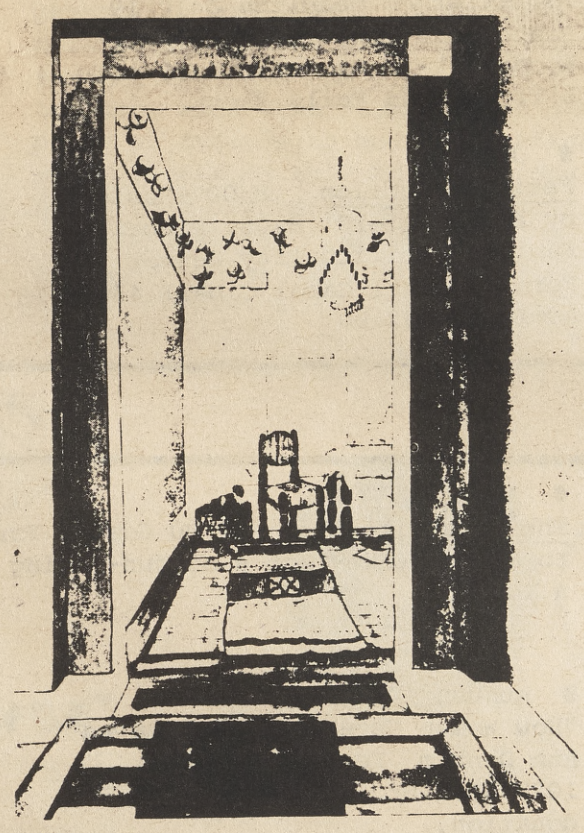
Unfortunately, America destroys its people with its myths. The reality of 1978 is that one half the children under six live in fatherless families. Six million children live with single, working parents. At least, 19,000 children under six care for themselves while their parents work.

Women who cannot live on $287.00 a month welfare grant must work to feed their children. Without child care, they must carry the burden of leaving their children alone and run the risk of prosecution and prison should something happen to their children while they are working. Migrant farmworkers must leave their children in hot, dirty cars or cardboard boxes at the end of rows of crops. There is no child care for these people.

In fact, there are only 700,000 licensed spaces for children in the entire country. Those who can afford it (child care averages $130.00 per month, per child) still face long waiting lists for pre-school age child care. Infant and after school care is virtually non-existent. If a woman with three children finds child care, she will probably be asked to pay at least fifty per cent of her salary for tuition. This is hardly worth while for most women. They are forced to leave their children alone, perhaps under the care of an older child, or go on welfare, raising their children on less than three hundred dollars a month.

And, what does America offer its women, its mothers, the symbol of freedom and righteousness? America tells them they better find a husband to support them. If they don't, they are called lazy and paid $.50 cents an hour to raise their children. Welfare is the cheapest child care in the land. Or better still, these women are ignored since they do not jive with the myth of bountiful America. America does not morally support child care, it does not fund child care.

In the last few years California has recieved Federal monies specifically earmarked for child care, which has been redirected into the budgets of other social services. This year there is twenty millon dollars set aside for child care. In light of the Jarvis-Gann rebellion, there is a good chance none of that money will reach child care. Not only will new funds be re-routed, but forty-three millon dollars in property tax revenue will be lost. This money runs the statewide system of child care centers: a program designed to specifically aid single, working parents by providing free or inexpensive child care.



There has never been enough adequate quality child care. Now mythic America is systematically destroying what it has taken fifteen years to create. Previous to Jarvis-Gann there was 11.2 million in the state budget for development of infant care, after school care, and rural child care programs. That is gone. The already limited child care programs now operating will be cut by 43 million dollars. The twenty million dollars in Federal and State monies for this years expansion doesn't even approach making up the difference. Child care will suffer in the years to come. And with it, so will single parents, and children.

Women will be forced to quit their job and stay home to raise their children. And, how will these women support themselves? Those who must turn to welfare will have even less money this year. And, how long can a family of three exist on $287.00 a month? If 10,000 children are killed each year by abusing parents, how many more will die under the stress of no money and no way to get it. And for those women who keep their jobs without child care, who will answer for the emotional trauma, guilt, fear and worry both children and parents will experience?

How will mythic America answer the people it can so easily ignore and through its ignorance destroy so many lives? When the beautiful people of America finish with their tea party, when they go home to their comfortable homes and families, when they spend their property taxes on more luxuary and more comfort, who is going to tell them what they have done? Can anyone, or any group, ever break through the mirage they have created that is their America? Will they ever see the suffering, the pain, the despair they so easily voted into existence? It is not likely.

Women who need child care because they must work; children who need child care because they can not take care of themselves are not any part America the beautiful. As long as the money stays in the power of mythic America, then only the myth will be funded.

Jaci White

'Gay' Denied

The Patent and Trademark Office of the United States rejected an application to register the name "Gaysweek" because the proposed trademark was "immoral or scandalous."Michael Lavery, general counsel of "Gaysweek" said "it is remarkable that anyone, even the Federal Gov., could find the word gay immoral or scandalous in this day and age".

Congratulations Dr. Sally Wagner from Gibbous RISING

Gibbous RISING EXPANDS

Gibbous RISING wishes to thank all the women who attended the open meeting last month. Our collective is expanding and we are feeling more confident about meeting the needs of the community. We will be opening up our weekly meetings, until the seperate work groups get going. Call Roxanne Mitchell, at 442-4657, for meeting dates. Thank you the Editors.

SUMMER TIME

JULY

● July 1

Films for Children Showcase Theater 412 L St. 441-2910
'Puf 'n' Stuf' 'Hey There its Yogi Bear'

● July 5
Medusa vs. Raggedy Anns
6:30 pm.- Grant Park

● July 7-9
Women's Gathering on Nonviolence and Feminism Monte Toyon Camp, Aptos Ca. For info. write: Women's Gathering, 1360 Howard St. (2nd Floor) San Fran. Ca. 94102

● July 7,8,9
2 ND ANNUAL NORTHWEST WOMENS MUSIC FESTIVAL- Portland Oregon, Admission sliding scale, buy weekend tickets or single events. Advance registration is required by June 30 for housing. Childcare provided. RSVP to Pati Gorp, Route 4, Box 219
Hillsboro, Oregon, 97213
More Info write: Women's Place Resource Center- 1915 N.E. Everett St. Portland Oregon 97323

● July 8
Films for Children 11 AM Showcase Theater 412 L St. 441-2910 "At the Earth's Core" "Silent Running"

● July 12-18
A Creative Art Experience in the Wilderness Registration Deadline July 5, 1978 Place : Camping Women property at Nevada City, Ca. Experience Level: No special art skills are necessary. Be familiar with the 13 basic camping skills. Leader: Erica Fielder.

● July 12
Medusa vs. Midnight Madams
Tahoe Park 7:30 PM

● July 15
Childrens Films 11 AM Showcase Theater 412 L St. 441-2910
"Charlottes Web" "Bugsy Malone"

● July 15
Cris Williamson Concert with Jackie Robinson and June Millington Saturday 8pm Berkeley Community Theater Tickets $4.25. Tickets avalaible Sac. Women's Center

● July 21-23
Mime Puppetry Weekend Workshop
$75.00 IDHHB Inc. PO Box 370
Neveda City 95959

● July 22
Childrens Films 11AM Showcase Theater 412 L St. 441-2910
"Planet of the Apes""Beneath the Planet of the Apes" "Escape from the Planet of the Apes."

● July 23
River Rat Raft Run 11 AM Sunrise Bridge Parking Lot- pickup at Goethe Park off Folsom Blvd. Bring rafts, picnic lunch and drinks.

● July 23
Backpack Workshop 9 AM - 4PM Registration Deadline July 19 Place:Sac. Experience Level: Woodcrafter. Leaders Charlotte Williams and Emily Mast

● July 26
Feminist Auction 8:00 -Music by Ellen Alford 9:00. Place: Feminist Spirituality Center
For info call Carol Cabell 456-9516
Admission $2.00

● July 28-29
Music Camp in the Sierra Mountains
Registration Deadline: July 18
Place: Emigrant Gap,Ca.
Experience Level: No special music skills- novice camping skills
Leader: Charlotte Williams
Groups is limited to 24
Cost: Camping Women members $40.00 all others $50.00 Deposit $15.00

● July 29
Workshop Eemale Sexuality
Time : 10-5 $10.00 Registration
For more info write: Sally Wagner P.O. Box 22104 Sacto. 95822
Or call 961-8175

● July 29
Childrens Films 11 AM
Showcase Theater 412 L St. 441-2910
"Dr. Doolittle" "Cartoon Festival"

● July 28 - August 4
A Women's Writing Conference& Retreat
Skidmore College, Saratoga Spring New York. Write: Hannelore Hahn IWWG Callerbox 810 Grace Station, New York, New York 10028 for more information.

AUGUST

● August 1
Registration Deadline for West Coast Martial Artists Training Weekend. Sept 8-11 Lake Vera, Nevada City- Registration fee: $30.00 for more info contact Betty Braver, 1732 Bidwell, Sac. Ca. 95818

● August 4-8
High Sierra Human Adventure
Registration Deadline: July 26
Place: Mono Pass- 4 day pack trip
Members $75.00;all others $95.00
Contact Camping Women, 2720 Armstrong Drive Sac. 95825

● August 5-6
Camping Adventure Overnight
Registration Deadline: Aug. 2
Place: Camping Women's Property Nevada City
Call: Charlotte Williams
2720 Armstrong Drive Sac. 95825

● August 6
The Best Bike Ride 10:00 Goethe Park to Nimbus Lake- Lot's of fun- Bring a lunch.

● August 10
"How Women Have Been Mind Raped"
Ann Denham Feminist Salons, 1028 40th St. 7-10 PM $1.00 donation.

● August 11-13
Life Style Diversity
Camping weekend designed especially for lesbians and non-lesbian to experience a feminist camping program and to learn more about the lifestyles of the other. $50.00- Members $40.00
Camping Women 2720 Armstrong
Sac. Ca. 95825

● August 17
"Gay Rights and the Backlash"
Rev. Freda Smith Feminist Salons
1028 40th St. 7-10 PM $1.00 donation

● August 24
"Women and Sports"
Roni Baker Feminist Salons
1028 40th St 7-10 PM
$1.00 Donation

● August 26
Equality Day Dance ERA FUNDRAISER
Details 961-0373

● August 30
"Word is Out" 7:00 PM
Josette Mondonaro Fundraiser
Showcase Theater 412 L St.
Tickets available at door
Contact Linda Birner 456-5858

Lunches 11-3 M-F
EARHART'S cafe
1905-16th Street 442-2481
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Eves 6-11 W-Sa

WORK SHOPS

■ Anyone who would be interested in joining a woman's support group combined with reading and discussion, Call: Mary Gutierriz, 440-6868 (7:30-4:00) 452-2354 (after 4:30).
We will have a get together at my apartment and discuss goals and ideas. Any ideas welcome. Call if you wish to attend.

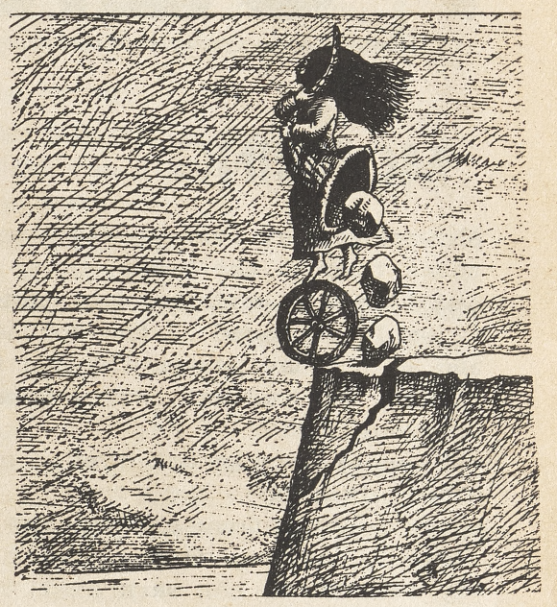
****

■ A Lesbian Sexuality Workshop. An opportunity for sharing and self discovery. Will be held in July during the weekend of the 14, 15, 16. If you are interested please plan to attend a preliminary meeting at the Women's Center July 6, 7:30 PM. 1230 H St. Sacramento for more info call: 925-3667

■ Fat Rap is a group in which women can discuss the problems and societal pressures of being and thinking that they are overwieght. This is not a diet group, it is a rap group to gain and give support. This group will start July 5, Wednesday at 7:30 PM At the Sacramento Women's Center. Call 442-4657 Facilitator: Judy

****

■ An amateur photo display and contest will be held August 21-27, at Florin Center. Rules and entry forms will be available July 7th at the Florin Center Information Booth. Entries must be recieved by August 16th. For further information contact: Jan Michelle Sawyer, Promotions-Flash photo artist, 451-8701.



EVENTS

Back To The Land

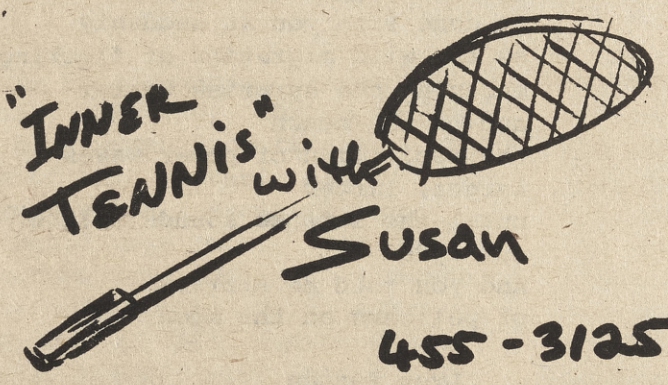
In response to Proposition 13 and layoffs of women within the community, women are invited to join us in living on the land (and working) for some or part of the summer. Collect your unemployment on the land! We'll be working on projects dealing with water systems, demolition, wood recycling, road building, and carpentry. The ultimate goal is the construction of a woman's retreat facility. We have 150 acres outside of the Nevada City Valley area. If you are interested, write Release, P.O. Box 134, Smartsville, Ca. 95977.
Be sure you include your phone no. so we can get back to you.

Martial Arts

The School of the Flowering Fist, 2122 X St. (rear) is designed to meet the needs of women who desire training in either Karate (Kenpo) or in self defense. The studio provides support for all women to become physically competent, recognizing that this an area which most women have neither explored nor developed. By training with other women in an atmosphere of friendship and cooperation, each woman should be able to attain the level of competency she desires.
Beginning and intermediate self-defense classes are taught by Karla Grant, an instructor of three years.
For more information call:455-4833

Bakke Decision

The Supreme Court may rule on the Bakke Decision any day now. ARE YOU READY? The Anti-Bakke Decision Coalition is prepared to fight anything, short of a total reversal.
1) Informational Picket: Day of the decision (11:30-1:00, Federal Bldg. 650 Capitol Mall.)
2) Mass Meeting: Night of the decisi (Asian Community Center, 6th & Vst.
3) Demonstration: following Saturday (steps of the Supreme Court, 9th and Capitol Mall 11:00-1:00).
To be notified of these events Call 451-7011, 433-7059, 441-1910



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POEMS

MORNING

Showering mist fell slowly over my body as dawn
shone through the trees,
and I knew if morning were human
it would be found in the softness of your skin,
and as the day passes the sun flies
flexing its radiant forces towards mysterious
cravings inside of me,
the penetration is not hard,
slowly into me-
water rushing down through the banks,
current, running salmon, small rivers winding their
way over me to the warm silt
holding me down,
drifting, growing
months have grown inside of me
but imaginary friends know that reason will stop;
and wonder why so many paintings of you
hang in my house,
and you died years ago-
small, like butterflies,
you watched and came quickly,
once dressed as beautifully striped zebras,
swift running to the meadows, just beyond the forest,
you always seemed to be just
past the forest,
and you are always there first.

Lynn Patten

Whaling in Trucks

I speak of whale fishing
their ancestors-
land animals, born alive, and fed milk,
in the old days
a killed whale made fast
to the side of the ship
let men walk in spiked boots
over its body
cutting thirty foot strips of skin
from its side-
I watch from the deck
standing where the dead whale
will be hoisted
and laid- hard wooden
planks touching the slick
white skin of its giant
stomach
and I think what would happen if people
were dried out and stored;
instead of huge ships and harpoons
we could drive through the cities
and even the desert
whaling in trucks.

Lynn Patten

A Description of a Woman

coming through a hard glare
parts of your slender body
looked as if it had never
been touched
by hands,
but yet there were insidious wounds
beneath your breasts.

Lynn Patten

I Saw a Pelican Running Across the Face of the Moon

Watching the ache of my feet
I slowly look towards the moon
full, moving
leaving paths reflected in the sea
whispering, a north wind
voices continuing virginal passages
out from me.

I wonder why I am standing,
the pain constantly reminding me
of how often
the earth dies beneath me.
And only a brief month ago
the stark circular mountains
killed memories of soft rivers;
blood turning itself
out from my hands
And I watch fish swim
into my soul.

Water, once a warm liquid
close by your eyes,
it has spoken of pain, blue
your eyes blend, it is the part of you
captured by perching
waves, and lying on your bed
your tender body speaks
of the closeness of the sea
in relationship to the
wonderment of the moon.

Once I thought only the moon
would fly
southward in direction
whirling amongst dark forests
casting the silver light on oncoming
large steel trains.
Thick metal swept over by a large
sound carrying elderly women
and a six year old child
perhaps to Venice
where shadows frequent the night
and the death of fever is everywhere
seeping into the smallest one
room house.

The next six months showed morning
it came from you as suddenly
as the wild migration of flocking birds
escaping the surprise winter
and on the beach
the repitition of power waves
larger, larger
until the immense sounds filled
our eyes
And you told me stories
of pelicans on the moon.

Lynn Patten

In this open room
gigantic pieces of space
lapse into the forms
of your breasts
and the light comes
from your flesh-
the plain-ness of your belly
and thighs; held tight
as if you expected
pain to come from my hands,
and I think you
forgot who I am.

Lynn Patten

Prop.13 Effects con't.

stating that monies should be used for essential services. A rhetorical plea at best-- no one would ever contradict the need for fire or police protection, and of course the education of our children. Money must be spent to save our communities, or we will burn to the ground. However, the political justice or the constitutionality of this bill must be viewed.

Where does Proposition 13 allow for the protection of third world people or women's rights. It is women, third world people and older people that cannot afford medical care. With cuts in medical care we are disallowing a segment of the population rights that the rich have. Women with money have always been able to afford abortions, they can buy that right. Poor and third world women cannot. With new budget cuts and restrictions, MediCal might not be able to pay for abortions. Our community may also lose Planned Parenthood services, which means less family counseling, and lesser avaliabilty of contraceptives. Child care will also decrease, single mothers will be forced to quit jobs and training programs, and they will have to stay home with their children. And they can choose the alternative to work, welfare; another county funded agency facing budget cuts. Over, and over, and over again women become victims in our society. We are forced into a situation where we can not live as single parents or women without fear of losing housing, medical care and the basic societal advantages that so many people take for granted. The politicians speak of essential services, never understanding that women and third world peoples need much more than the so called "well-off" American. Women need the Rape Crisis Center, Mother's Emergency Stress Service, Battered Women's Shelters, Drug Abuse Agencies, Child Care and Medical Services. Proposition 13 has sucessfully severed the ties between third world people and women and the help their community could provide for them. Proposition 13 has disabled women's services.

Comments around the Capitol in the last couple of weeks have ranged anywhere from the "people voted for Prop. 13, we didn't" to " that's why I have a wife-- to take care of my children." The sensitivity of some conservative proponents is outrageous and overwhelming to face. One can only suppose that legislators do not experience rape, or family stress, or loss of work because their children are sick. Or they don't have to worry about their children while they are picking crops, or looking for work- they don't have to worry about medical expenses, they don't have to worry about abortions, and they don't have to worry about the multitude of problems that every poor or ethnic person is faced with everyday of their lives when trying to exist in a world where they are made victims of money.

Proposition 13 has developed a political paradox. The politicians scream and yell about it being a mandate of the people, but they fail to realize the people want cuts in overpaid bueracratic positions, not services. Proposition 13 is a mandate of big business and the rich; there are very few poor and ethnic people that will benefit. It has become a statement of conservative politicians to destroy the existing care for minorities and poverty people. We have fought for years for equality and it has been taken away in one election. The atmosphere surrounding the Capitol and the Sacramento area is one of despair with the possibility of losing so many services.

SACRAMENTO COUNTY STANDS
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Vendor Programs
COUNTY HEALTH COUNCIL
CURBSTONE
DIOGENES
EMERGENCEY MEDICAL TECH. TRAINING
FAMILY SERVICE AGENCY(LOW INCOME)
FAMILY SERVICE AGENCY(UNMARRIED PARENT)
FOSTER GRANDPARENT
FRIENDS OUTSIDE
LA FAMILIA
LEGAL CENTER/ELDERLY
MEALS A LA CAR
MEXICAN AMERICAN RECOVERY HOUSE
MOTHER'S EMERGENCY STRESS
NUTRITION PROGRAMS
RAPE CRISIS CENTER
RECREATION PROJECT(SACTO. INDIAN CENTER)
RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM
SACRAMENTO CONCILIO
SACRAMENTO COMMISSION ON AGING
SACTO. COUNTY RECREATION FOR THE HANDICAPPED
SENIOR CENTER(STANDFORD HOUSE)
THE CENTER FOR THE EARLY DETECTION OF BREAST CANCER
WOMEN CENTER SERVICES
THE BATTERED WOMEN'S SHELTER
PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS
LIBRARIES

ASTROLOGY FOR FEMINISTS

Sexism is an accusation frequently made against astrology. That accusation has kept many women from taking advantage of this valuable aid to self awareness. As a feminist-astrologer, I would urge you to seek the self awareness possible in this study. Sexual stereotyping is not integral to astrology, but in fact, limits the chauvinistic practitioner in the same way it has limited women.

The horoscope records the cosmic reality as seen from the place of birth at the moment of the first independent breath. The sun, moon and planets represent elements of the self; the houses represent areas of life; the signs, modes of expression. These factors are combined and aspected to each other in innumerable ways. Men and women are given the same planets, signs and houses. The meaning of these factors remains the same for men and women. The problem, of course, arises in the interpretaion. Astrologer tend to reflect the biases of their culture. Aggression becomes "masculine" nurturing becomes "feminine". The father is an authority figure. The mother is receptive. While these statements may be generally true in our culture due to societal conditioning, they are not necessarily true in specific horoscopes. As sexual stereotypes break down, these statements become less and less valid. A time will come when "masculine" and "feminine" as descriptive terms in astrology will be meaningless.

In my files of approximately 300 men and women, I find no greater emphasis by sign, house placement or aspect of Mars and Saturn, the planets of aggression and authority, in the charts of men than in the charts of women. Nor do I find Venus and the moon, the planets of affection and receptivity, emphasized for women more than for men. What I do find, however, is that women tend to understand and develop their Venus and moon qualities more than men do. Men tend to develop Mars and Saturn qualities. I see no mystery in this. What I do see is emotionally choked men and frustrated women. By understanding the nature, mode and focus of each element of the self, the individual can achieve greater personal growth, spiritual awareness and, very often, a more harmonious and productive life.

ASTROLOGY FOR WOMEN

July 13, 1978

7-9 Pm

Sacramento Women's Center

1230 H Street

442-4657

Pat Larsen

One Woman's View

DYKES & FEMMES

How often have you tried to figure out if a "certain" lesbian is a "dyke" or a "femme"? There are as many definitions for the words "dyke" and "femme" as there are lesbians. Within the Lesbian Community, many lesbians, including lesbian feminists are "role playing". The "masculine" role is preferred and includes stereotypical qualities seen as positive--physical strength, aggressiveness, and independence. It also includes masculine traits that are negative and these degrade the more feminine qualities that many lesbians possess; such as looking and dressing more typically female, or feminine.

Lesbians do not like being called "femme". This term is a derogative label as opposed to "dyke". You might be thinking that the word "dyke" means a strong woman, but why then are some lesbians, even lesbian-feminists called "femmes"? (There are many strong lesbians who are never referred to as "dykes".) The woman who is called a "dyke" by other lesbians usually has some male qualities, such as the clothes she wears, the way she walks, the way she talks, or the traditional male job she holds, or even a quality that is indescribable, but is intuitively perceived as male. Could it be that those who are called "femme" are seen as sexier and more sensual then "dykes"? After all, the term femme fatale means: A seductive woman who lures men into dangerous or compromising situations.

In some feminist circles and collective groups, lesbians are called "dykes". But not so at the lesbian bars. It appears that as a woman walks through the door, her feminist gown is left hanging on the door knob, to be worn again on the way out. "Dykes" stand around in bars and make comments about women. A "dyke" is a strong woman, but does the label give her the perogative to oppress other women. Many lesbians feel the label "dyke" grants them the freedom to have sex with whomever they want, and whenever they want, without being labeled "promiscuous". "Promiscuous" is reserved for any "femme" who

sleeps around. In other words, the old double standard is alive and well in the lesbian feminist community!

In reality the terms "femme" and "dyke" have little to do with strength and weakness. They have alot to do with heterosexual roles of men and women, that lesbians have yet to discard. Having roles is not necessarily good or bad; but the oppressive ideas that are kept alive by the excuse of having to play a certain role are wrong and harmful to those who perpetuate them as well as to those who are oppressed by them. The most oppressive idea that is perpetuated by roles is that one should have power or control over another. This implies that the "dyke" should have power over the "femme", thus creating an unequal relationship between women. The double standard is also a part of this idea: "I can fool around or get involved with another woman, but don't you dare do that or you'll be seen as promiscuous" or "I won't let you do that, I'll leave you", or "I just can't deal with you being involved with another woman, but you must understand my need to be 'affectionate' with others "

Roles will be around a long time. As feminists we must examine our beliefs for they create the roles we choose. Our beliefs create our feelings which in turn create our actions. We do have a choice as to how we feel about ourselves and other women. "Dykes" can assume power and this is seen as ok... "Femmes" are seen a powerless and weak. When strong, intelligent, hard working and talented women are labeled "femme" in a negative way, then it is time to examine our thoughts and beliefs, for only then can we hope to eliminate all the roles that oppress us as women.

anonymous

Editors note: We welcome your comments on this and all articles. Names will be withheld upon request, but all articles must be signed upon submission.

YOUR FOOD THEIR PROFITS

The Consumer Defense Fund is filing a lawsuit against Proctor and Gamble and General Foods for blatant advertising waste. Consumer Defense maintains that Proctor and Gamble has added 23.6% to its advertising budget yearly and General Foods has added 35.5%. This yearly increase is passed on to the consumer. If these companies keep going at the present rate, they will be spending an extra $200 million this year, all of which is paid for by the consumer.

Obviously these companies do not care who buys their products. Because of increased price hikes people on fixed or low incomes cannot keep up with their inflationary practices. Women, minorities, the elderly and the handicapped are the hardest hit.

Supporters and sponsors of the Consumer Defense Fund are : Feminist Party, Black Women United for Political Action, Harlem Consumers Education Council, Media Workshop, Consumer Information Service, and Majority Report. Their first action is to try and win an injunction against Proctor and Gamble and General Foods so they will not be able to spend any more money on advertising this year than they did last year. Consumer Defense is also organizing a boycott of all products of both companies.

If you are interested in helping Consumer Defense and saving money, write to Majority Report Consumer Defense Fund, 74 Grove St., New York, NY 10014. Contributions of $10.00 or more are also appreciated. And read your labels:

To name a few:

Proctor & Gamble	General Foods
Crest	Maxwell House
Gleam	Yuban
Duz	Koolaid
Bold	Gainesburger

Lynn Patten

from the WOMEN'S OFFICE ubc canada

A TAPE LIBRARY

The Women In Focus Audio-Visual Library is the result of over a year's work by a group of women who came together to try and do something constructive about the lack of women in the communications media, and to fill the need for information about, and of relevance to, women The tapes are produced, directed and created by women.

Women in Focus
Box 85
Student Union Building
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, B.C. Canada

The tapes are available to individual women, women's groups, educational institutions on either a rental or purchase basis.

your show

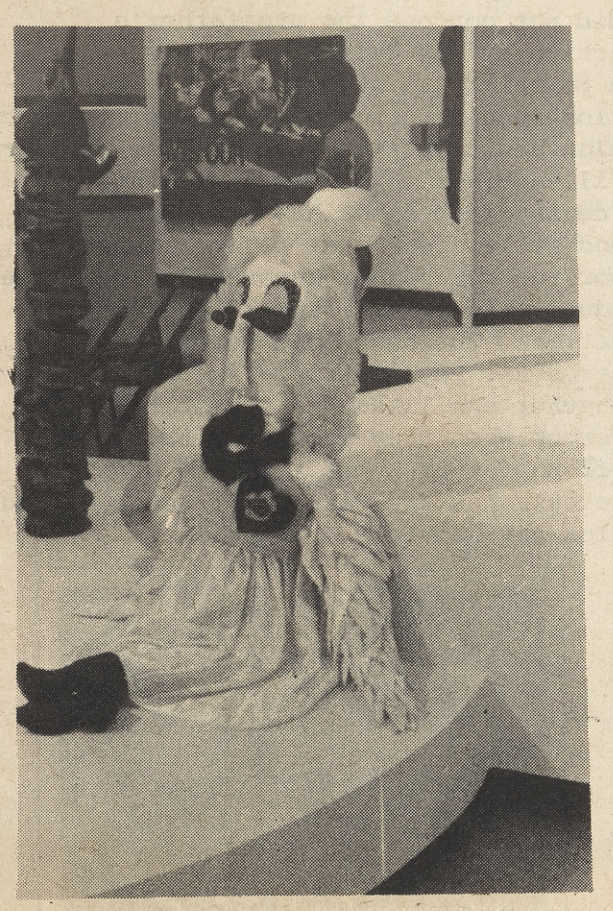
Your Show, which closed this month at Cal Expo, proved that women do indeed make art. The statement needed to be made, specifically in Sacramento as it has been made in cities across America. What Your Show did not go on to state, was that feminist art is perhaps the most dynamic genre of art in the world today.

Your Show was created, in part, as a reaction to the art show that accompanied the state NOW conference held earlier this year. That art show was juried by Linda Benglis, an artist from the mid-west. Benglis was very prejudicial in her selection, accepting work from "name" artists only. At best, the NOW art show was flat and gave no overview of the art that California women are capable of and do produce. The goals of Your Show were 1) to show a wider variety of women's art, 2) to show California work juried by Californian women artists, and 3) to show art of many media, not just painting or photography, but sculpture, lithography, soft sculpture, textile work, "women's crafts", filmmaking, dance, music and theater. It was an industrious project, worked on by many talented and capable women from the California League of Women's Artists, a Sacramento area-based group. To their credit, a large number of women artists submitted work, the programs went smoothly,and the art show was generally sucessful.

The opening was well-attended. Many artists present were obviously experiencing their first show. Women wandered through the hall, amid celebrities and TV cameras, meeting friends, discussing art, and watching the artful dance of Harmony Grits. Outside, Viola Weinberg's science fiction poetry reading assaulted the ear in a most compelling way.

The 'performances' varied in quality. The evening of music, though well attended was loosely strung together and unexciting. The Lilith performance

"Portrait of Mother with her Favorite evening bag" by Karen Godeke



was poorly attended which was unfortunate for a theater troupe of their quality. It almost seems redundant, but just because a piece of art is made by a woman does not automatically make it good or acceptable. The selection of films was an excellent example of this. Metroliner, the first film, stunk. The filmmaker, Victoria Hochberg, had probably made the film as a project in college. The editing was tedious, photography unimaginative, story-line non-existant. Dynamic, thought-provoking films are being created by feminist filmmakers and video producers in the Bay Area and L.A. With the exception of "Love It Like A Fool" by Susan Wengraf, no current superlative filmwork surfaced at Your Show.

As a whole, Your Show reflected the wide disparity of taste of the judges rather than a cohesive colaboration of talent. One felt quality was being sacrificed to the quanity of work needed to fill the hall. As a result, the stronger pieces suffered, the impact of the overall show was watered down. Though much of the art was along more traditional lines, many pieces reflected the artist's attempts to reach into herself, drawing heavily from experince and inner self, to create an articulate expression of woman's experience and women's lives. "The Letter" by Noreen Scully and "Danse of the Shadows" by Matrisha One Person are excellent examples. It was exciting to see a lot of new names creating dynamic art. Some notables are Nurk of Sacramento, Harriette Francis of Larkspur, and Sheril Cunning of Escondido. One hopes to see more art by these women over the years to come.

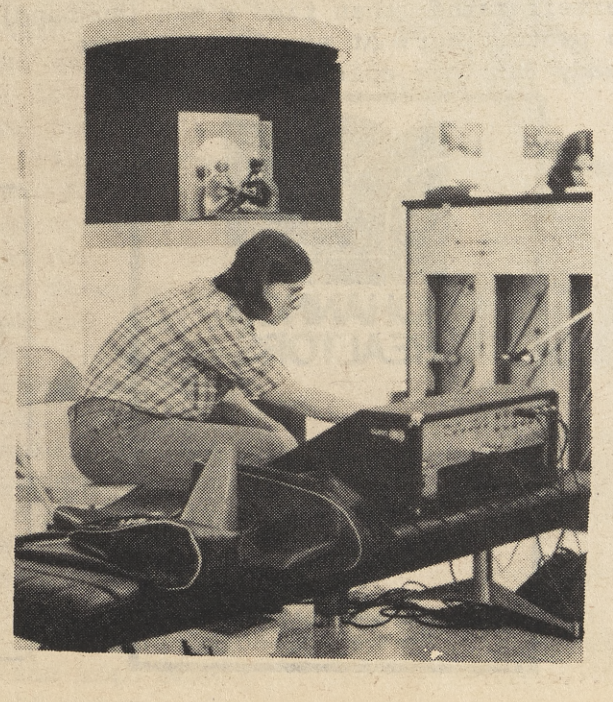
The events reflected what the selection committee knew was available rather then reflecting all of the artful possibilities. Your Show, when seen as a whole, very carefully attempted to make no overt statements. Your Show proved women can make art but Your Show failed to state what women's art can be. Perhaps no overall statements were made out of fear, or because of the need for middle class art-community approval.

Your Show was an industrious undertaking and was, by and large, a sucessful one. The California League of Women Artists should be credited for getting women's art into the limelight. Hopefully the knowledge gained by producing this year's show will lead to a better show next year. We're looking forward to it.

By Tinker Ramey

"The Parade" by Maxine Olson

Cloud Giordano and sound equipment



J.D. Bond

All Photos by Lynn Patten

REVIEWS

I MUST NOT ROCK

I MUST NOT ROCK
Linda Marie
Daughter's Press

Rarely do we have a chance to read such a gutsy, bold, honest story of childhood and young adulthood by the woman who lived them. The story is revealing by the direct setting down of facts rather than by analysis. Many of the numerous and wide ranging experiences retold are universal.

Linda Marie's attempt to come to terms with her mother is one such issue of the book. A more prominent one is Linda's angry struggle to discover what was necessary for her survival amidst the myths and rituals imposed on her. After realizing the nuns were "pleased at her progress" when she got gold stars on her reports she was angry. She had stolen the stars. The nuns insisted she should not rock but she resisted their efforts to stop her. In fact, she got the other students to rock. This struggle to separate reality from authoriarian and social pretense and convention is reminiscent. Much of the book is not.

The context of Linda's childhood was substantially different and thus is revealing of a childhood most of us did not experience and of which too little is written by those involved. Linda grew between a molesting father, a negligent mother, prejudiced state and condeming church. By the age of two she was in jail. She lived briefly in a myriad of largely indifferent foster homes. And she was generally considered "a bad girl". Somehow everyone held her responsible for what happened to her. Yet from the extremes of her experiences comes incontrovertible proof, which applies to each of us, that the process of victimization is a necessary and inherent part of our society.

When neighbors reported to the authorities that Linda had been abused, the authorities discovered sexual abuse by the stepfather also. A "warrant" was issued and all the kids were taken to jail. Linda writes that she "never forgot that it was all my fault they didn't have their home anymore. If Helda, (her mother,) was irresponsible as I believed, then it must be I who was responsible for what happened to the younger children." Linda's guilt pales besides the actions of every adult involved to make the children pay for adult transgressions.

The court records included in the book indicate the extent to which the children were pawns. The court never talked to them and accepted the stepfathers testimony concerning them, as though it was their statement. The children had no legal representative.

The stepfather testified that Linda "seemed interested" in sex and that she was "acquiescent." Although the court did not condone the stepfather's action it was defensive on his behalf. A psychiatrist stated that the molestation resulted from an "accidental association and temptation" which was, of course, "ill-advised" but, certainly, not a "deviation." Linda has now had her say and it is clear that neither the state, nor the church nor anyone else held the adult male fully responsible for his actions. The nuns told her to pray for her sins. Psychiatrists kept inquiring whether she liked it. The state locked her up when they weren't sending her off to foster homes. Linda's story reveals how she was blamed and punished "for his problems."

Linda, in describing one of her friends at the convent school, wrote simply, Nona's "mother married some prick who raped Nona. That's why they locked Nona up."

Linda's memories of her home reveal the horror children and women experience at the unleashing of male frustation against anyone physically smaller and hierarchially lower. She describes her stepfather's return from work. He belts the crying baby out of a chair. One can follow the change from fear, to paralyzing terror, intimidation and confusion. And how difficult it is for a woman to take total responsibilty for herself rather than find a man (husband) to protect her. At age 20 Linda was ready for this solution.

The style of the book is direct, feisty and obstinant. It suits the contents well. While much of the book is not easy or comfortable, it is disturbingly engrossing. And Linda's humor, guts and perceptiveness are appealing. In addition there are several rich, warm episodes. These give a glimpse of the same person in different--nonabusive and noninstitutional-surroundings. The contrast is striking as well as reassuring. They also constitute an indictment of most of the situations imposed on Linda and others like her. They refute the general conviction that she was bad and responsible for the harm that happened to her.

With her grandmother, a foster family in Pleasanton, her father in Florida and her husband's family in India she exudes comfortability, harmony and clarity. Even her style changes, becoming smoother and warmer. Her capacity to feel warm toward life is unleashed. The episodes are wonderful to read.

"We headed south to Madras; eventually to more of Raman's relatives in Cape Comorin, the southern tip of India and the most beautiful place in the world. On Cape Comorin shore, the sand separates according to its color: red, yellow, black, white. In Cape Comorin everyone, every morning, gathers to watch the sun come up from the sea."

Later on the trip she wrote, "I put coconut oil in my hair, then brushed and braided it, like sister-in-law did. Then I rubbed the baby with oil and bathed her shiny body, and dried her with the end of my sari."

Linda Marie began writing the story of her life after reading the recently opened state records. She wrote because she wanted others to see what happens to children under state custody. She has accomplished that. She says now that the book is also a means of connecting with others who share similar childhood experiences.

In making her life known, Linda has provided a valuable and rich document from which I learned about my life as well as hers. Beyond this, which would be enough, Linda Marie has written a book which is immensely confident and thus inspiring to all of us who attempt to take independent responsibility for our lives and to find the strength to resist the perversion of convention and grow in our own ways.

Nancy Holland

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GUIDE TO WOMEN'S PUBLISHING

Guide to Women's Publishing
by Polly Joan and Andrea Chesman
(Dustbooks, 1978)

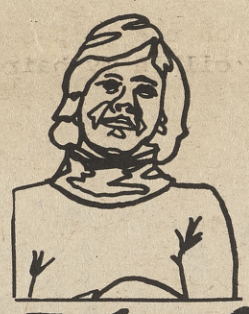
For over a year Polly Joan and Andrea Chesman mailed questionaires to women's journals and presses, organized the responses, and wrote chapters describing the state of women's publishing. This Guide is the triumphant result of their collaboration.

The book is divided into sections on newspapers, journals, publishers, printers and distributors. A final section on "additional resources" discusses feminist libraries and archives, writers' resources, directories, and review publications. Each publisher, journal, and newspaper listed is described in terms of its politics, history, and publishing focus. If the Guide were no more than an annotated list we would have much to be grateful for. But it is far more. As the authors point out, "the intensity of Feminism as a Movement...spread through the printed word. More than any other movement in history Feminism (is) identified with publishing." Perhaps because of this identification, in compiling an overview of Feminist publishing, and especially in the long analytical introductions to each section, Polly Joan and Andrea Chesman have given us a picture of the energy, depth and potential for growth of the Movement as a whole.

At a time when the mass, male-dominated media tells us that feminism is dead, it is invigorating to read this definitive evidence to the contrary and to know that all over the country women's newspapers and presses operating from spare rooms and garages are alive and growing. Matria Press of Grand Rapids, MI, for instance, is a poetry publishing collective that owns and operates its own basement press on which it lovingly prints Word-Weavings-unbound anthologies (journals?) of poetry and graphics. Albatross is described as a "radical lesbian satire magazine"-- with comix and humor as well as poetry and articles--the Feminist answer to National Lampoon. If women's presses and journals experiment with form and style, they also serve as support networks for the women involved in them. Primapara, a Wisconsin literary magazine, focuses on publishing regional writers and on providing a "medium of exchange" between and among writers and readers. Sinister Wisdom, published in North Carolina, is an attempt to "create an Amazon Culture Center"--its aim to approach and use language in revolutionary ways and to create a "revolutionary lesbian imagination in politics and art." But regardless of whether they explicitly say so, all the publishers, newspapers, and journals described in the Guide are engaged in the task of creating and midwiving a new Feminist culture. "Feminist publishing," say the authors, "is also feminist politics. It is not an alternative to male publishing. It is a political act as diverse as the Women's Movement itself."

Not only does Guide to Women's Publishing testify to the grassroots strength of the Movement, it also depicts its growth and increasing sophistication. More and more, Feminist distributors and print shops are becoming part of the picture as women realize that to control what is published means to control its production and distribution. The publication of Guide to Women's Publishing gives women throughout the country access to information previously localized and scattered. It is also "an affirmation that women's publishing is a REALITY."

Whitney Rogge



July 7,8,9

2nd Annual Northwest Womens Music Festival

PORTLAND OREGON

The second annual Northwest Women's Music Festival will be held in Portland July 7-9. The festival is open to women and children and is designed to show the depth and strength of women's culture. There will be music and other performing arts on three different sized stages, open microphone time, workshops on a wide variety of topics, display and sale space for women's art and information tables for women's action groups. This year's festival emphasizes the diversity and politics of women's culture, includes women of color at all levels of the festival, and presents many regional performers. Women are invited to bring instruments. The festival will consist of a large concert Friday night at Jefferson High School: workshops, medium concerts, small concerts, open mic, and community events at Cascade campus Portland Community College; a large concert Saturday night ending with a dance; more workshops, medium and small concerts, and open mic Sunday morning and early afternoon at Cascade, and closing the festival with a large concert at Jefferson. Ticket price is sliding scale according to a woman's ability to pay. Tickets for the whole event are $18. for low income women, $24. and $30. general admission, and $36. for those who can afford more to aid work exchange and low income women. Work exchange is available. Tickets may be purchased for single events using the same sliding scale. A comprehensive child care program will be available with field trips and special entertainment for children. Childcare is free. Children and high school students attending the festival will be half price.

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in association with the Berkeley Women's Center
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RESPONSE FROM LESBIAN SCHOOLWORKERS

and other progressive demands. Gay women and men also fought back against our oppression and gained pride in our gayness. In the past few years, the government has been trying to take away these gains. The U.S. economy is in crisis. As nations around the world win their independence from the U.S., such as Vietnam and the African nations, the U.S. economic crisis grows. There are cutbacks, layoffs and rising unemployment. People are angry. People are frightened. The ruling class is trying to use this situation to build a right wing base within the white working class against the rights of Third World people, women and gay people. The living conditions of the working class in this country are atrocious. We suffer from inadequate housing, poor medical care and an inferior educational system. People are angry about all of this, and the government is trying to channel that anger against those who have the least control over the way things are run. The ruling class is trying to increase economic and social differences between white and Third World people, between women and men. They are trying to win public support for such actions as the Bakke decision, anti-abortion, forced sterilization, anti-busing and Save Our Children campaigns. THEY MUST BE STOPPED.

There is an organized alliance of conservative forces around the country which is using local right wing groups to support the government's goals. The KKK, Nazi Party, American Labor Party and John Birch Society are increasing in numbers and becoming much more visable. They are united in their attacks against Third World people, women and gay people. The government is doing nothing publicly to stop these right wing groups while covertly encouraging them. The racism and sexism of these groups on a local level plays right into the hands of government strategy on a national level. Another aspect of this strategy is to give all these attacks the appearance of a grass-roots campaign. In fact, they are directed and financed from the top.

Lesbian Schoolworkers
P.O. Box 365, 625 Post St.
San Francisco, Ca. 94109

Lesbian Schoolworkers has been working within the Bay Area Gay Teachers and Schoolworkers Coalition. We are building popular support against the Briggs initiative. We have been speaking on radio and TV and to community groups. We are writing and distributing literature and a newsletter; and we are raising money to continue with our work.

As gay people in the schools, we want to fight for more than the rights of gay schoolworkers. We want to fight for the rights of students, parents, and other school employees. We want to join in the struggle for quality, anti-racist, anti-sexist education, hiring of Third World staff, bilingual education, community control, and the many other demands of oppressed groups within the educational system.

J CLARKE

WHAT DOES 'SAVE OUR CHILDREN' REALLY MEAN?

Is Senator Briggs talking about saving young girls and women from a society in which a woman is raped every 60 seconds and 25% of all women are sexually abused by family members before the age of 18?

Is Senator Briggs talking about saving Black children in Chicago who are stoned and beaten trying to attend integrated schools? Is he talking about the unemployment rate for Black youth which is over 40% and rising?

Is he talking about saving children in public schools across the country who do not know how to read or write at the age of 17 although they are perfectly capable of learning these skills? Is he talking about saving children from a society in which most people work all their lives to make money for a few rich men on the top?

NO. Republican Senator Briggs and the right wing forces he represents do not want to save our children or provide quality education. The ruling class uses this educational structure to maintain the present economic and social system. Therefore, the public schools train a labor force in which Third World people and women will have lower paid, lower status, often temporary jobs.

Tracking forces many Third World children into classes where they are never taught to read or write. They are robbed of their culture and learn that their place in this society is inferior. When they speak out against this injustice, they are usually suspended or expelled. Girls learn to accept a role in which we are totally defined by our sex. White working class boys learn to take their place in this system as relatively low paid workers who have less than the wealthy, but more than Third World people and women. The educational system teaches children to be insecure and competitive rather than cooperative. It teaches children to be ashamed of their backgrounds, to believe it's their fault they haven't made it economically and socially because "they haven't worked hard enough." The educational system does not teach children self-respect or an understanding of the true history of this country.

Lesbian Schoolworkers

McCarthy Era-the 1980's?

California State Senator John Briggs has successfully collected 500,000 signatures placing his anti-gay school teacher initiative on the November ballot. If the initiative passes, gay California public school employees and employees who support gay rights can be charged with "homosexuality," degraded by a public hearing, and dismissed from their jobs. To keep their jobs, school employees will have to denounce their sexual preference and withdraw their support from the gay rights movement. They will also be asked to give names of lesbians and gay men who are working in the schools.

An atmosphere equal to McCarthyism in the 1950's will be prevelent in California. Instead of the House of Un-American Activities Committee, there will be a "Save Our Children Committee", and schoolworkers who are considered undesirable by the government or school officials will be systematically fired.

The Briggs initiative is threatening gay people and school employees so that they will not speak out against injustices and expose problems. Again, this is reminiscent of the McCarthy era, where people lost their jobs and were jailed because of alleged involvement with an unpopular political and social commitment (communism). If passed, the Briggs initiative has the potential to grow into another national campaign to oppress all free-thinking individuals.

Robin Purdy